

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for determining whether reproduction of data recorded in an information recording medium is allowed,

wherein the information recording medium including a user area, and a spare area including a replacement area, wherein the replacement area may be used instead of a defective area in the user area,

wherein the user area and the spare area include a plurality of sectors,

the method comprising the steps:

determining whether a format of data recorded in the information recording medium is a predetermined format; and

determining whether reproduction of data recorded in the information recording medium is allowed, in accordance with an attribute value of the read-out defect replacement allowance attribute data, and

the defect replacement allowance attribute data indicates whether recording of the data has been executed in a state that the execution of a defect replacement process is allowed, wherein the defect replacement process, the defective area in the user area is replaced with the replacement area in the spare area,

wherein defect replacement allowance attribute data is read-out from the sector, the data being recorded in the sector, when it is determined that the format of data recorded in the information recording medium is the predetermined format.

wherein the predetermined format is DVD-Video format.